

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/646,946

Examiner

Cheryl Lewis

Applicant(s)

GILLESPIE ET AL.

Art Unit

2167

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the applicants' communication filed on September 19, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 35-38, 43, 45-48, 60-63, and 65-82, renumbered as claims 1-31.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date June 17, 2004.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 10/26/2000
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 35-38, 43, 45-48, 60-63, and 65-82 are allowed. Claims 35-38, 43, 45-48, 60-63, and 65-82 have been renumbered claims 1-31.
2. Claims 1-34, 39-42, 44, 49-59, and 64 have been cancelled.

### ***Drawings***

3. The examiner acknowledges the replacement drawings that were received on May 19, 2005. Although, the replacement drawing sheets, figures 1 and 2, have overcome the 37 CFR 1.84(i) rejection regarding the lines, numbers & letters not being uniformly thick and well defined, clean, durable, and black (poor line quality). The replacement drawing sheets have not overcome the shading rejection indicated in the PTO 948, Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, dated January 7, 2004 (mail date June 17, 2004).

The drawings filed on May 19, 2005 are acceptable subject to correction of the informalities indicated on the attached "Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review," PTO-948. In order to avoid abandonment of this application, correction is required in reply to the Office action. The correction will not be held in abeyance.

Again, the applicants need to address the shading of figures 1 and 2. Drawing figures 1 and 2 comprise solid black shading that is not permitted, see 37 CFR 1.84(m) of the MPEP. The examiner has attached a copy of the PTO-948 dated January 7, 2004 (mail date June 17, 2004) for the applicants convenience.

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Edwin Schindler on February 2, 2006.

5. Claims 70, 80, and 81 have been amended as follows:

Claim 70. (Currently Amended) A document management extension system for use as an extension to a document collection and management software program, said document management extension system comprising:

~~a database for storing documents managed by a document collection and management software program;~~

an information store comprising a database and a messaging system for storing documents managed by a document collection and management software program, with means for storing documents in only one or both of said database and said messaging system, and with stored documents being stored in said database or said messaging system of said information store;

means for document indexing of said database of stored documents;

means for processing said stored documents in said database; and,

means for launching an application for searching a document store being carried out by a command in a "Start Menu."

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Claim 80. (Currently Amended) A document management extension system for use as an extension to a document collection and management software program, said document management extension system comprising:

~~a database for storing documents managed by a document collection and management software program;~~

an information store comprising a database and a messaging system for storing documents managed by a document collection and management software program, with means for storing documents in only one or both of said database and said messaging system, and with stored documents being stored in said database or said messaging system of said information store;

means for document indexing of said database of stored documents;

means for processing said stored documents in said database; and,

means for linking documents to one another via specifying one-way logical links between related documents.

Claim 81. (Currently Amended) A document management extension system for use as an extension to a document collection and management software program, said document management extension system comprising:

~~a database for storing documents managed by a document collection and management software program;~~

an information store comprising a database and a messaging system for storing documents managed by a document collection and management software program, with means for storing documents in only one or both of said database and

said messaging system, and with stored documents being stored in said database or said messaging system of said information store;

means for document indexing of said database of stored documents;

means for processing said stored documents in said database; and,

means for linking documents to one another via specifying two-way logical links between related documents.

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Applicants' response filed on September 19, 2005 overcomes the prior art rejections under 35 USC § 102(e) by Watkins.

The prior art of record does not render obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of applicant's invention nor anticipate the combination of claimed elements including 'an information store comprising a database and a messaging system for storing documents managed by a document collection and management software program, with means for storing documents in only one or both of said database and said messaging system, and with stored documents being stored in said database or said messaging system of said information store' as recited in independent claim 35.

As per claim 66, the prior art of record does not render obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of applicant's invention nor anticipate the combination of claimed elements including 'a database for storing documents managed by a document

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collection and management software program; and software providing for when a network or server fail, while a document is open, a user is able to continue working, even if the user is unaware that the network or server has failed'.

As per claim 70, the prior art of record does not render obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of applicant's invention nor anticipate the combination of claimed elements including 'means for launching an application for searching a document store being carried out by a command in a "Start Menu"'.

As per claim 71, the prior art of record does not render obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of applicant's invention nor anticipate the combination of claimed elements including 'document management extension dialogs having a context menu, said context menu having a status function for allowing an implementation of workflow and including options of draft or published'.

As per claim 72, the prior art of record does not render obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of applicant's invention nor anticipate the combination of claimed elements including 'means for preventing an uncontrolled and unauthorized access to an object store of said document management extension system'.

As per claim 80, the prior art of record does not render obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of applicant's invention nor anticipate the combination of claimed elements including 'means for linking documents to one another via specifying one-way logical links between related documents'.

As per claim 81, the prior art of record does not render obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of applicant's invention nor anticipate the combination of

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claimed elements including 'means for linking documents to one another via specifying two-way logical links between related documents'.

As per claim 82, the prior art of record does not render obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of applicant's invention nor anticipate the combination of claimed elements including 'means for flagging by a user a document management extension object as permanent'.

The remaining claims, 36-38, 43, 45-48, 60-63, 65, 67-69, and 73-79 are dependent claims, thus these claims are patently distinct over the art of record for at least the above reasons.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

#### **NAME OF CONTACT**

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cheryl Lewis whose telephone number is (571) 272-4113. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jean Homere can be reached on (571) 272-3780. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

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(571) 273-4113 (Use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper/amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions.).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist/ Technology Center (571) 272-2100.


Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Cheryl Lewis  
Patent Examiner  
February 2, 2006

  
EXAMINER